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METHOD OF SELECTING A SALT FOR MAKING AN INCLUSION COMPLEX  
FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a method of selecting a salt of a medicinal compound for use in making a composition of matter comprising said salt and a cyclodextrin. In particular, it relates to a method of locating salts which are highly soluble in aqueous cyclodextrin solution.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Formulation of pharmaceutical dosage forms is frequently hampered by poor aqueous solubility and/or stability of the drug of interest, which in turn can severely limit its therapeutic application. Conversely, increasing drug solubility and stability through appropriate formulation can accordingly lead to increased therapeutic efficiency of the drug. Various methods have been used to increase the solubility and stability of drugs such as the use of organic solvents, emulsions, liposomes and micelles, adjustments to pH and the dielectric constant of formulations solvent systems, chemical modifications, and complexation of the drugs with appropriate complexing agents such as cyclodextrins.

Cyclodextrins, sometimes referred to as Schardinger's dextrans, were first isolated by Villiers in 1891 as a digest of *Bacillus amylobacter* on potato starch. The foundations of cyclodextrin chemistry were laid down by Schardinger in the period 1903-1911. Until 1970, however, only small amounts of cyclodextrins could be produced in the laboratory and the high production cost prevented the usage of cyclodextrins in industry. In recent years, dramatic improvements in cyclodextrin production and purification have been achieved and cyclodextrins have become much cheaper, thereby making the industrial application of cyclodextrins possible.

Cyclodextrins are cyclic oligosaccharides with hydroxyl groups on the outer surface and a void cavity in the center. Their outer surface is hydrophilic, and therefore they are usually soluble in water, but the cavity has a lipophilic character. The most common cyclodextrins are  $\alpha$ -cyclodextrin,  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin and  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin, consisting of 6, 7 and 8  $\alpha$ -1,4-linked glucose units, respectively. The number of these units determines the size of the cavity.

Cyclodextrins are capable of forming inclusion complexes with a wide variety of hydrophobic molecules by taking up a whole molecule, or some part of it, into the void cavity. The stability of the complex formed depends on how well the guest molecule

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## Summary Of The Invention

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said target solubility. Those salt(s) having an equilibrium solubility greater than the desired target solubility are thus chosen to be the desired salt(s).

Those familiar with using cyclodextrins will appreciate that the invention has applicability to any medicinal compound which will form salts, which will form a complex with a cyclodextrin and which has poor aqueous solubility.

In a similar aspect, this invention provides a method of determining a useful salt, from within a series of salts of a particular medicinal compound, for use in making a composition of matter comprising said salt and a cyclodextrin, said method comprising:

- a. obtaining said series of salts;
- 10       b. determining the equilibrium solubility, in aqueous cyclodextrin solution, of each of said salts in said series; and
- c. selecting, as said useful salt, a salt in said series having a solubility in said cyclodextrin solution equal to or greater than a desired target solubility.

The invention further provides a composition of matter comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of a medicinal compound and a cyclodextrin, said salt having been located or chosen by the methods above. In a preferred embodiment, the composition is an inclusion complex of a salt complexed in a cyclodextrin.

The phrase "composition of matter" as used herein encompasses, *inter alia*, compositions of a medicinal compound and a cyclodextrin which are dry physical mixtures, which are dry inclusion complexes, and which are aqueous solutions of dissolved inclusion complexes. For example, the composition can comprise a dry mixture of a medicinal compound physically mixed with a dry cyclodextrin. The composition, in a preferred embodiment, can also comprise an aqueous solution which has been lyophilized or otherwise dried, for example in a vacuum oven or other suitable device, such that the composition comprises a (pre-formed) inclusion complex of cyclodextrin-complexed compound which can later be re-constituted. The composition can also comprise the solution itself, i.e., a medicinal compound plus cyclodextrin plus water. Inclusion complexes are within the scope of the term "composition of matter" whether they are pre-formed, formed *in situ*, or formed *in vivo*.

30       In a more particular embodiment, this invention provides a method of determining a useful salt, from within a series of salts of a particular medicinal compound, for use in making a composition of matter comprising an inclusion complex of said salt in a cyclodextrin, said method comprising:

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a. determining or choosing a quantity of said medicinal compound required for therapeutic efficacy;

b. determining or choosing a maximum total dose in which to administer said quantity of medicinal compound;

5 c. calculating the minimum required solubility of a salt of said compound necessary to formulate said maximum total dose;

d. obtaining said series of salts;

e. determining the equilibrium solubility of each of said salts in said cyclodextrin; and

10 f. selecting, as said useful salt, a salt from said series having a solubility in said cyclodextrin sufficient to permit making a total dose equal to or less than said maximum total dose.

Reference above to a "series of salts" of a compound means, of course, that the compound must be capable of salt formation. Further, the terminology a "series of salts  
15 of a particular medicinal compound" means any two or more different salts of a particular medicinal compound. The series can be assembled as a group and tested "side-by-side" to determine whether any of the salts are useful for making a useful salt/cyclodextrin composition, or each member of the group can be tested separately, for example at different times and in different locations. The series of salts can be  
20 "obtained" in any manner, for example by making them or ordering them pre-made from a commercial supplier. The term "salt" generally means a pharmaceutically acceptable salt. The salt can be anhydrous or in the form of one or more solvates, such as hydrates, including mixtures thereof. The salts may occur in different polymorphic forms.

25 A "desired target solubility" as used herein can be a minimum solubility, usually pre-determined or pre-chosen, required for the compound being tested. The required minimum solubility will generally be chosen on the basis of therapeutic need. For example, assume that it is desired to administer 20 mg of a compound ("Compound X") parenterally, by injection, and that it is desired to administer an injection volume of  
30 not more than 2 ml to minimize pain on injection. Thus a salt of Compound X, in order to be "useful", would need to have a solubility, in the chosen aqueous cyclodextrin, equivalent to or greater than 10 mg/ml of Compound X in its active form.

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Within a given series of salts, the most soluble salt may not be the most useful candidate for a given application. Factors such as chemical stability, hygroscopicity, and the potential for precipitation may also be considered and weigh in favor of choosing a candidate having a solubility greater than the target solubility, but less than the maximum determined within the series.

On the other hand, at times it may indeed be desired simply to find the salt with the highest solubility of all salts within a series of salts of a particular compound. In this case the "desired target solubility" is simply the highest solubility encountered in the series of salts by comparison of equilibrium solubilities among the various salt candidates. For example, if it is desired to make a dry oral dosage form such as a capsule or tablet using an inclusion complex of a salt of Compound X, then it may be desired simply to find the most soluble salt available in order to minimize the amount of inclusion complex in the dosage form, and thereby minimize the size of the dosage form itself.

"Maximum total dose" means the intended maximum size of a dose, including excipients and liquids (e.g., for an injectable) which are to be included in a dosage form, considering the patient or patient population for which the dosage form is meant. Typically, a maximum total dose for an injectable is considered to be about 2 ml for adults. A maximum total dose for a tablet or capsule is typically a couple of grams to ensure the dosage form is swallowable. Sizes, weights and volumes are "intended", meaning that they can change or shift depending on the particular patient population.

This invention is based, *inter alia*, on the discovery that for a particular cyclodextrin, the solubility of a particular compound in an aqueous solution of a cyclodextrin is not independent of the salt employed. That is, different salts of the same compound can often exhibit widely differing solubilities in the same cyclodextrin. The phenomenon of differential solubility exhibited by different salts of a compound in the same cyclodextrin has not heretofore been known in the art. It has also been determined that the rank order of solubility, that is the increasing or decreasing order of solubility of a series of salts in an aqueous cyclodextrin solution does not necessarily correlate with the order of salt solubility in water.

The discovery of such differential solubility of different salts in a particular cyclodextrin is surprising and unexpected based on conventional wisdom which teaches that the total solubility of an ionizable compound in a cyclodextrin-containing

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5      Total Drug Solubility = Fraction of free drug in unionized form + Fraction of  
complexed drug in unionized form + Fraction of charged drug in free form + Fraction  
of charged drug in complexed form

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D is the unionized form in solution.

**K<sub>a</sub> is the dissociation constant.**

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Further, the phenomenon of differential solubility is important because it makes possible the capability for increasing the loading of a particular compound in a

cyclodextrin by testing a series of different salts of that compound and selecting a salt which affords a desired high solubility, thereby permitting the use of a lower amount of cyclodextrin relative to a less cyclodextrin-soluble salt. The phenomenon is particularly important in the case of parenteral administration (i.e., by injection) because, assuming a constant concentration of inclusion complex in water, injection volume can be reduced by choosing an appropriate highly cyclodextrin-soluble salt. As noted above, by locating highly cyclodextrin-soluble salts, the invention also provides an opportunity to reduce the size of dry dosage forms (such as tablets and capsules) by using correspondingly lower amounts of inclusion complex relative to the amounts of inclusion complex for less cyclodextrin-soluble salts.

#### Brief Description Of The Drawings

Figure 1 is a solubility phase diagram which is a plot of the maximum equilibrium solubility of a series of salts of the compound ziprasidone as a function of SBECD concentration in water.

The ordinate (Y-axis) is Drug Solubility (units are millimolar) and the abscissa (X-axis) is SBECD concentration (also millimolar units).

The symbology employed is explained in the following chart:

Salt	
+	Mesylate
X	Tartrate
Δ	Esylate
•	Napsylate
○	HCl

#### Detailed Discussion

The amount of medicinal compound to be administered to a patient is an effective amount. The amount, mode of administration such as oral, parenteral, and so forth, and dosing regimen (e.g., whether the dose is to be divided and frequency of administration) will of course vary with the compound being administered, the patient population, and so forth. The amount of cyclodextrin used in a particular formulation will be a bioavailability-increasing amount. Small amounts of cyclodextrin even when

present in a dosage form which is a mixture, can enhance bioavailability by forming an inclusion complex *in vivo*, thus increasing the bioavailability of the drug relative to uncomplexed drug. Generally the amount of cyclodextrin in a formulation is usually such that the molar ratio of cyclodextrin to drug is between 0.1:1 and 100:1, preferably between 0.25:1 and 10:1, more preferably between 0.5:1 and 5:1. If the formulation is an aqueous solution, it can contain cyclodextrin in a wide range of concentrations, e.g., from 5 wgt % (w/v) to over 100 wgt % (w/v). At high concentrations of cyclodextrins, formulations become somewhat viscous and are amenable to oral administration as elixirs or syrups.

10 The invention is applicable to cyclodextrins in general, including those which are presently known. Useful cyclodextrins include  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  cyclodextrins, methylated cyclodextrins, hydroxypropyl- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (HPBCD), hydroxyethylated- $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (HEBCD), branched cyclodextrins in which one or two glucoses or maltoses are enzymatically attached to the cyclodextrin ring, ethyl- and ethyl-carboxymethyl  
15 cyclodextrins, dihydroxypropyl cyclodextrins, and sulfoalkyl ether cyclodextrins. The degree of substitution is not considered to be critical, and the cyclodextrins just mentioned can have essentially any degree of substitution (per entire cyclodextrin molecule) known in the art. Mixtures of cyclodextrins, as well as single species, are feasible for making dosage forms according to the invention.

20 HPBCD is well known in the art, see for example Publication R 81 216 entitled "Encapsin HPB" from Janssen Biotech N.V.. <sup>SBECD</sup> is also known and has been disclosed in U.S. Patents 5,376,645 and 5,134,127, both to Stella et al. and both herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

The pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts of a compound  
25 capable of salt formation can be prepared as known in the art by conventional methodology by treating a solution or suspension of the compound with about one chemical equivalent of a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base, as appropriate, depending of course on whether the compound forms acid addition salts or base addition salts. The salt can be isolated by conventional methods, such as by filtration  
30 when the salt spontaneously precipitates (e.g., as a crystalline material), or it can be otherwise isolated by concentration and/or addition of a non-solvent. For example, the salts employed in the Examples below were made by first weighing an amount of ziprasidone free base and adding it to a solvent, typically an organic solvent, water, or

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a mixture of two or more solvents. The solvent(s) used can depend on whether it is desired to isolate the salt from a slurry or from a solution. If it is desired to isolate the salt from a solution, the solvent can be heated, with stirring, to facilitate dissolution. About one molar equivalent of an acid or base, as appropriate, or a slight excess, corresponding to the desired counterion is added with stirring. After a period of time which can be determined by simple experimentation, typically hours, the solids can be harvested by filtration and washed.

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An inclusion complex of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of a compound can be formed conventionally by known methodology. That is, an inclusion complex of a desired pharmaceutically acceptable salt can be formed *in situ* by adding the salt directly to a pre-made solution of cyclodextrin in water (or other suitable pharmaceutically acceptable aqueous medium) in an amount sufficient to make a product solution of the desired strength. Alternatively, the drug and cyclodextrin can be added to the water separately or together as a mixture. The product solution can be used immediately or stored (at room temperature or at reduced temperature) depending on the shelf life of the inclusion complex. A pharmaceutically acceptable preservative or other excipients may be added to render the dosage form stable to chemical, physical, or microbial degradation. If SBECD is employed as the cyclodextrin, since SBECD is generally used in the form of its sodium salt, the product solution can be used as is (with rewarming to room temperature if the solution was stored) for administration to patients, no adjustment to isotonicity being required. If isotonicity needs to be adjusted, it can be adjusted as known in the art by adding an appropriate amount of an isotonicity adjusting agent.

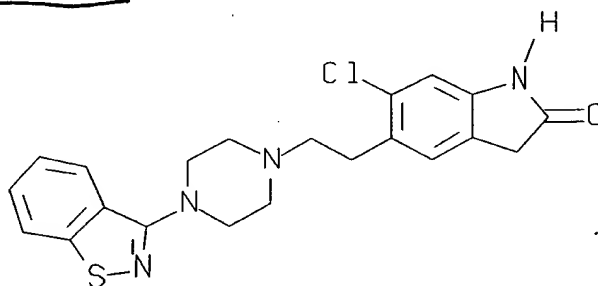
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Alternatively, the inclusion complex of a salt in aqueous cyclodextrin ~~cyclodextrin~~ can first be isolated, usually by lyophilization. The isolated inclusion complex can be stored at room temperature during its shelf life (usually at least two years) and made up into a product solution as needed. When a product solution is required, it can be made by dissolving the isolated inclusion complex in water or other aqueous medium in an amount sufficient to generate a solution of the required strength for oral, parenteral or other route of administration to patients. If necessary to adjust isotonicity, it can be accomplished conventionally as known in the art by adding an isotonicity adjusting agent.

Alternatively, a solid physical mixture comprising a salt of a drug and a cyclodextrin can be made in the form of a tablet or capsule which dissolves in gastrointestinal fluids after oral ingestion. Such mixtures may also be incorporated into buccal, sublingual, nasal, topical, or transdermal dosage forms. Such compositions  
5 may also be incorporated as solutions or suspensions in soft-gelatin capsules.

The phenomenon of different solubilities for different salts in a given cyclodextrin is general. The invention is not limited to any particular compound, class of compounds, or to any particular cyclodextrin. Rather the invention is applicable to salts generally. Moreover, the invention is not limited to any particular dosage form or  
10 route of administration. Rather, the invention is useful whenever increased solubility of a salt of a compound is desired.

For purposes of illustration, the following discussion is directed to a particular compound, ziprasidone, which has the structure



15 It is disclosed in the U.S. patent 4,831,031, has utility as a neuroleptic, and is thus useful as an antipsychotic. Those skilled in the art will, of course, recognize that the teachings with respect to salts of ziprasidone are applicable to other salts generally as well.

Solubility testing of various ziprasidone salts in cyclodextrin (SBECD and  
20 HPBCD) was conducted by comparing the maximum equilibrium solubility of each salt in an equal amount of cyclodextrin. Many different experimental protocols can be envisioned and implemented. The following protocol employing 40% aqueous cyclodextrin as a standard solution for comparison of equilibrium salt solubilities, but that concentration is not to be considered as limited. Other concentrations can be  
25 employed as well for purposes of serving as a comparison standard. The HPBCD

employed was purchased commercially from Wacker Chemie. The SBECD employed had a degree of substitution with sulfobutyl groups of 6.5, average, per molecule of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, made by a process along the lines of that described in Example 3 of U.S. Patent 5,376,645.

5        A 40% (w/v) solution of cyclodextrin (SBECD or HPBCD) in water was prepared by adding 200 g of cyclodextrin to a 500 mL beaker containing approximately 250 mL of deionized water and a magnetic stir bar. The contents were stirred until dissolution of the cyclodextrin in the water was complete, usually a time of about one hour being sufficient. The solution was then transferred to a 500 mL volumetric flask and deionized  
10 water was added to the mark. 5 mL of the volumetric solution was pipetted into a 10 mL glass vial with a screw cap. An excess of the solid ziprasidone salt test candidate and a magnetic stir bar were added to the vial. The vial contents were stirred for four days at ambient temperature to allow a sufficient time for equilibrium to be reached. Upon removal from the magnetic stirrer, the sample had undissolved solid present,  
15 indicating a saturated solution under the conditions employed. The contents were filtered into a clean screw cap vial through a Millex-GS 0.2  $\mu$ m filter and the drug concentration determined by an HPLC method.

As an example of an HPLC assay, the amount of dissolved compound can be determined by using a C18 Puresil (Registered Trademark of Waters Associates)  
20 column with an isocratic mobile phase consisting of 60% 0.05 M potassium dihydrogen phosphate buffer and 40% methanol, at a flow rate of 2 mL/min at 40 °C. Detection can be by UV absorption at a wavelength of 229 nm. Quantification can be effected facilely by comparison of HPLC peak height (or area) with the peak height (or area) taken from a standard plot of concentration vs. peak height (or area) for standards of  
25 known concentration. As is conventional, the ziprasidone standard concentrations are selected to fall within a linear range of concentration vs absorbance for the UV detector employed. The saturated equilibrium solution obtained after filtering the vial test solution may need to be diluted in serial fashion to reach the linear range of the standard plot, and dilution can be effected by adding isocratic mobile phase.

30        The above procedure was also employed to determine the solubility of ziprasidone in other concentrations of cyclodextrin. By doing this and using the data to make solubility phase diagrams for different ziprasidone salts, it was determined that the solubility phase diagrams were linear for each salt, but that the slopes were

different, thereby demonstrating that different ziprasidone salts can have different equilibrium solubilities in the same cyclodextrin. The solubility phase diagram generated by doing this for different ziprasidone salts is shown in Figure 1.

Using the above HPLC procedure (including the column and isocratic mobile  
5 phase) a number of ziprasidone salts were tested to determine the equilibrium solubility of each in 40% HPBCD and in 40% SBECD. Results are reported in Table 1.

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Table I: Solubility of ziprasidone salts in water and 40% cyclodextrin solutions.

Salt form	Solubility in water	Solubility in 40% HPBCD	Solubility in 40% SBECD
free base	0.3 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	0.26 mgA/ml	0.35 mgA/ml
tosylate	5 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	NT	14 mgA/ml
napsylate	34 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	NT	14 mgA/ml
besylate	80 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	NT	12 mgA/ml
hydrochloride	80 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	2.4 mgA/ml	4 mgA/ml
aspartate	170 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	1.3 mgA/ml	9.3 mgA/ml
tartrate	180 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	12.4 mgA/ml	26 mgA/ml
esylate	360 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	13.7 mgA/ml	15 mgA/ml
mesylate	1000 $\mu\text{gA/ml}$	17.3 mgA/ml	44 mgA/ml

Note: mgA indicates the weight (in mg) of ziprasidone calculated as the free base, Molecular weight=412.9; NT = Not tested

Molecular weight of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin sufobutyl ether (SBECD): 2163; 40% (w/v) = 400 g/L = 0.18 M;

Molecular weight of hydroxy propyl  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin (HPBCD): 1309; 40% (w/v) = 400 g/L = 0.31 M

As previously mentioned, the order of solubility of a series of salts in water does not necessarily parallel the order of solubility in aqueous cyclodextrin solution. Table 1 illustrates this point. For example, the esylate salt of ziprasidone is twice as soluble in water as the ttrate. The solubility for these same two salts is roughly the same in aqueous HPBCD, and reversed in aqueous SBECD.

Table 1 indicates that for the particular ziprasidone salt candidates and cyclodextrin solutions tested, the highest solubility of ziprasidone can be achieved by dissolving ziprasidone mesylate in 40% SBECD. To deliver a therapeutic dose of ziprasidone of 80 mg/day of ziprasidone to a patient, the volume of 40% solution needed can be calculated as follows:

$$80 \text{ mgA/day} \times 1 \text{ ml/44 mgA} = 1.8 \text{ ml/day}$$

Thus with the instant invention, as exemplified above specifically for salts of ziprasidone, therapeutically useful salt inclusion complexes, that is inclusion complexes which deliver a desired therapeutic dose of a compound, can be located.

As seen from Figure 1, ziprasidone salt solubility is linear as a function of cyclodextrin concentration in water. This illustrates that the maximum amount of a particular salt which can be dissolved in an aqueous cyclodextrin can be measured as known in the art directly from such a solubility phase diagram (i.e., employing the appropriate line as a calibration plot), or calculated if the slope (and y-intercept, if it is non-zero) of the appropriate line has been computed.

As previously mentioned, the inclusion complex can be formulated for oral or for parenteral administration, usually intramuscular administration, to a patient. Subcutaneous and intravenous administration is also feasible. The inclusion complexes can also be administered orally in conventional forms, for example, as tablets, capsules, powders for oral suspensions, and unit dose packets containing a single dose (referred to in the art as a "sachet"). They can also be administered as buccal or sublingual tablets, as nasal sprays, in topical creams, in transdermal patches, and as suppositories.

The following examples further disclose and illustrate the invention:

Examples 1 and 2 illustrate the invention with ziprasidone.

#### EXAMPLE 1

A 300 mg/ml SBECD solution is prepared by dissolving SBECD in a pharmaceutically acceptable aqueous medium such as water. Ziprasidone mesylate is dissolved in the SBECD solution to make a concentration of 27.3 mg/ml (20 mgA/ml). The solution is sterile filtered through a 0.2  $\mu$ m filter. Glass vials are filled with the filtered solution to make a product solution which can be administered orally or by an intramuscular, intravenous, or subcutaneous route.

#### 10 EXAMPLE 2

A product solution is made as described in Example 1. Glass vials containing product solution are loaded into a freeze dryer and the product solution is freeze dried. The vials and their lyophilized contents are stored at room temperature until needed, at which time they are reconstituted with water or a pharmaceutically acceptable aqueous buffer for administration orally or by an intramuscular, intravenous, or subcutaneous route.

The following examples illustrate how to calculate dosage levels for particular inclusion complexes to deliver a particular dose, and also how to minimize injection volume.

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#### EXAMPLE 3

Compound A, a poorly soluble (in water) drug, is a carboxylic acid having a molecular weight of 350. It is administered in a preferred dose of 75 mgA/day for adults ("mgA" meaning milligrams of active compound, the free acid) and 25 mgA/day for children. The following series of base addition salts has the solubilities indicated for each in 40% (w/v) aqueous cyclodextrin:

	free acid	2 mgA/ml
	Salt A	13 mgA/ml
	Salt B	38 mgA/ml
30	Salt C	52 mgA/ml
	Salt D	37 mg A/ml
	Salt E	5 mgA/ml

#### EXAMPLE 4 - Ziprasidone mesylate

### EXAMPLE 5 - Ziprasidone esylate

### EXAMPLE 6 - Ziprasidone tartrate

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